GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:310
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2007
PROMOTION OF RURAL LIBRARIES
Virupakshappa Shri K.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to take special steps to improve the rural libraries in every State through a central sector plan scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the grants given to each State during the last two years for the improvement of rural libraries?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE(SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 310 FOR 06.12.2007 REGARDING PROMOTION OF RURAL LIBRARIES

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. It is proposed to set up the National Mission on Libraries as a central sector plan scheme during the 11th Plan for supporting public libraries, both in the urban and rural sectors of the country. Under the proposed scheme, the Central Government shall support libraries at the central, district and sub-district levels including rural libraries for improvement in the storage space, reading material, technological up gradation and providing access to knowledge without any bias of rural and urban locations.

(c) The Government supports public libraries including rural libraries through various schemes of the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata. Details of the grants given to each State during last two years (2005-06 and 2006-07) are at Annexure-I and II respectively. No separate record of the grants given to rural libraries is maintained.